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DIRECTOR HAPPY THAT TMNT FLICK BUCKS THE GRIM SUPERHERO TREND PAGE 14 metroAR

Compromise sought on all sides to ease Gaza blockade

Israel fears Hamas will try to re-arm; Hamas insists on say in reconstruction PAGE 8

You've got a roof over your head? So sorry to hear that

Open-air accommodations a dream for sleeping under the moon and stars PAGE 20

Cherry has choice words for mansion auctioneer

Hockey analyst scolds 'liars' after release claims he once owned $8M mansion PAGE 26

Manslaughter for Veld deaths?

Police mull charges. Proving causation and knowledge of risk a tricky idea: Lawyers

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
jessica.smithcross@metronews.ca

Toronto police are considering taking the rare step of charging a drug dealer — whom they have not found — with manslaughter in the apparent overdose deaths at the Veld music festival over the weekend.

Det. Sgt. Peter Trimble said Tuesday that criminal action — in this case, trafficking — that leads to death is manslaughter and may apply in the two deaths.

In Canada, one drug dealer has been convicted of manslaughter after a client overdosed. His defence lawyer, Darren Sawchuck, said he believes it's the only conviction of its kind in Canada and that it will be appealed.

Curtis Haas was convicted in May over the 2007 death of Wendy Henry in Winnipeg.

Sawchuck argues that even if it's proven the pills Haas dealt caused Henry's death, proving that selling her the drugs caused her to overdose — the premise of the conviction — is still problematic.

"Are we doing (people) any favours ... to say we're going to blame everybody else for every stupid decision that you make?" he asked.

GTA defence lawyer Daniel Brown said York Regional Police wanted to lay homicide charges in their 2013 investigation into the use of Fentanyl but ultimately only laid drug charges.

"Proving this legal idea of causation — that the drug dealers caused the deaths — the prosecutors thought they could not get over that hurdle," he said.

Brown said the most well-known case of a person being convicted of manslaughter in an overdose is Conrad Murray in the death of Michael Jackson.

"The difference there was it was a doctor who knew the risks," said Brown. "And that is part of what they need to show in a legal case."

Brown said he's interested to see how the Veld investigation turns out.

"If people were going out and spiking drugs, certainly we can imagine that leading to some sort of criminal charges, but short of that it happens all the time where people overdose," he said.

So far, police said they have no evidence that drugs at Veld were particularly potent or adulterated.

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 3

CANADA STONEWALLED

Canada's Nichelle Prince tries to find a way past Ghana's Grace Adams during the 2014 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup at BMO Field on Tuesday. Ghana claimed victory 1-0. Go to metronews.ca for the full story. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Mammoliti fingers INK, councilmates in Veld fest deaths

Blame game. Organizer threatens councillor with legal action for 'misleading and defamatory statements'

A Toronto city councillor could be facing legal trouble for a statement he released in the wake of two deaths at an electronic music festival held over the weekend.

Coun. Giorgio Mammoliti released a statement Tuesday that said it's time for "someone to take responsibility" before there are more deaths at electronic music shows.

A 22-year-old man and a 20-year-old woman died after apparently consuming drugs at Veld Music Festival at Downsview Park.

Mammoliti, who in the past has pushed for a ban on electronic dance music events at Exhibition Place, said festival organizer INK Entertainment and INK chief executive Charles Khabouth were partially responsible for the deaths, "due to their negligence and poor security measures."

"I suggest that we revisit whether or not INK Entertainment should be getting approvals and permits ever again," the councillor said in his statement.

INK's lawyers have responded, saying Mammoliti's statement used a tragic event to spread "false, misleading and defamatory statements" about the company.

In a letter to Mammoliti obtained by the Torstar News Service, INK's lawyer James Zibarras demands a full retraction and an apology by Thursday evening or says legal action will be pursued.

Mammoliti's statement Tuesday also blamed Coun. Gord Perks and Coun. Mike Layton for the deaths. It called for their resignation from office.

Perks and Layton had nothing to do with Veld. But because they support electronic dance music at the city-owned Ex, Mammoliti claimed they are responsible for the problems at federally owned Downsview Park.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"If it wasn't for them pushing these events and insisting they be held on government lands, I don't believe these kids would be dead today."

Coun. Giorgio Mammoliti's statement, blaming fellow councillors Gord Perks and Mike Layton for the Veld festival fatalities

Elderly widow flooded with charity junk mail

Angela Mior, 88, who lives on a small pension and typically gives hundreds of dollars a year to charity, has received 118 pieces of mail from 51 non-profits soliciting donations in the last two months. She has donated to many of her "spammers," but others may have gotten her address from charities that routinely share mailing lists. Her daughter worries that organizations are targeting the elderly during donation drives. Full story at metronews.ca. ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Residents oppose homeless shelter plans

Anna Sottile is against a homeless shelter in Oakwood Village.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Oakwood Village residents say they're happy to see homeless shelters in the city — they just don't want to see one in their neighbourhood.

Many of the storefronts at the intersection of Vaughan Road and Oakwood Avenue are empty, their signs fading, the windows dirty. A series of rundown bars are the busiest spots on the block.

Young families have moved into the area recently, and some of the buildings that were abandoned for decades have recently found new owners. An ice cream shop just opened nearby and a Montessori school is expected in the fall.

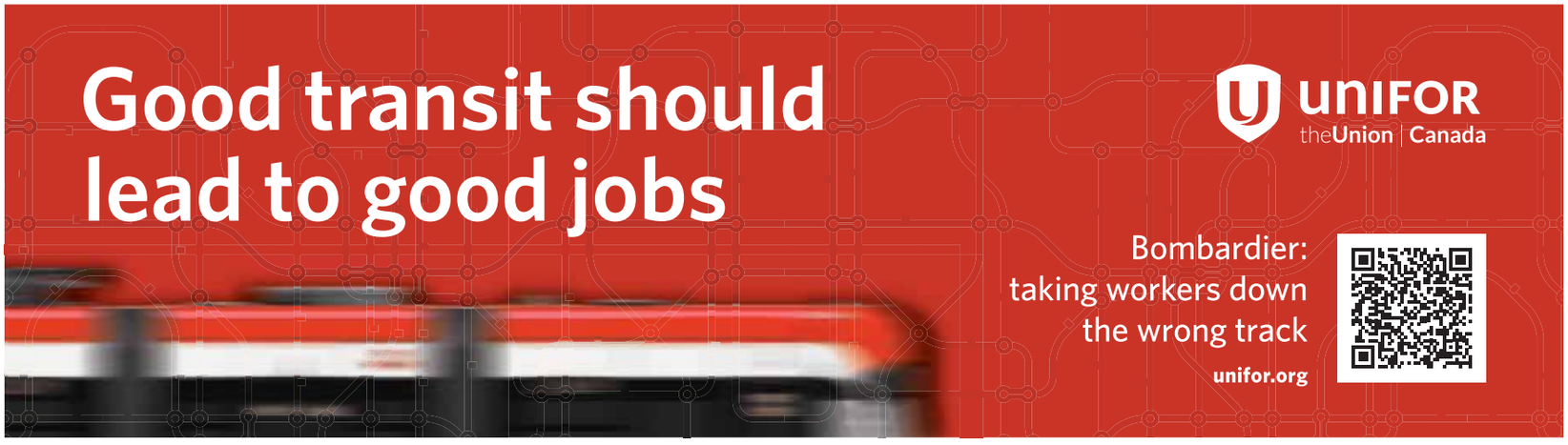
Now a church wants to convert an empty building on Vaughan Road into the new home of their homeless shelter Cornerstone Place, but neighbours say their community isn't the right spot.

"It's probably not an ideal place for vulnerable individuals to be," said Anna Sottile, who has lived in the neighbourhood her entire life. "One of the things I'm afraid of is that the residents in that shelter are going to fall prey to a lot of the illegal activity that continues to exist there."

Cornerstone Baptist Tabernacle has been running a 50-bed shelter for men out of its building on St. Clair Avenue West for more than a decade. The building was sold to a developer, and now the church — and the shelter — need to move.

The church has made a conditional offer to purchase a bar called Town Talk. Neighbours say the bar was known to be a seedy spot.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



City removes 'racist' web food manual

Toronto Public Health. Online guide to food handling, which contended "Chinese-style foods" could cause food poisoning, will be updated

Toronto Public Health has removed a decade-old manual from its website after receiving a complaint that the document was racist because it singled out "Chinese-style foods" as a potential cause of food poisoning.

Vanessa Ling Yu, founder of caterToronto, a community-based catering network and co-director of Food Forward, a food advocacy group, was studying the city department's Food Handler Certification online training manual last Wednesday when she found two references to "Chinese-style foods, rice" causing bacterial intoxication.

That type of foodborne illness can cause vomiting and diarrhea, the document said.

Chinese food was the only ethnic-specific cooking referenced in the 71-page manual, which was published in 2004.

Identifying a particular culture's food as being prone to illness is inappropriate and racist, said Yu, a Chinese-Canadian who "grew up" in a Chinese restaurant. The document shamed Chinese tradition and culinary practices by singling out its cuisine, she told Torstar News Service.

"There was no reason to say Chinese-style foods," Yu said. "It could have very well said cooked rice."

Quoted

"(The manual) positions (Chinese food) in a way that colours the way we police and perceive something that people are supposed to be very proud of."

Vanessa Ling Yu, founder of caterToronto

As Yu is familiar with Toronto's food industry, she emailed her complaint directly to contacts within the Toronto Food Policy Council rather than going through the Toronto Public Health's Complaints Officer, a process that allows up to 30 days for a response. She also tweeted at the city department, who responded the next day with promises to look into the grievance.

In an emailed response to Yu's complaint two days later, city staff said there is no place for hurtful or negative stereotypes in Toronto Public Health programs or services.

"(The manual) will be thoroughly reviewed and revised, as will all our course material, to ensure that they don't contain inappropriate cultural references," the email said.

Toronto Public Health spokesperson Kris Scheuer said Tuesday the 10-year-old document needed updating.

"A new revised version of the training manual will be posted online this fall," Scheuer wrote. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cleanup effort begins in Burlington

Kim Haswelo and her daughter, Hannah Dick, were on hand to help the residents of Elwood Road in Burlington on Tuesday as they pumped out their basements and cleaned up the mess after a monsoon-like rainfall. Environment Canada said 125 millimetres of rain fell in the area in a matter of hours on Monday evening. That's the amount normally expected to fall there in two months, according to the Weather Network. The onslaught of water backed up storm drains, caused mudslides and creeks to overflow and left deep pools of water in backyards, basements and low points in the city.

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Concern over esthetics may delay school board's solar panel project

A solar panel for roof replacements deal between the Toronto District School Board and private company School Top Solar LP could be scaled back after school principals balked at the esthetics of the panels.

In a confidential email sent to the school board's 22 trustees Wednesday, TDSB Director of Education Donna Quan said School Top Solar LP was experiencing some challenges meeting its proposed 101 solar installations this year because the cost of implementing the project is greater than originally determined. The company may now complete only 62 installations.

A "significant portion" of the cost overrun comes from a demand from school principals to have solar equipment located in isolated areas of the school for esthetic reasons, Quan said.

Cable used to connect the solar panels to the Toronto Hydro electrical grid retails at about $80 per foot. The price of running extra cable to a remote location could amount to an additional $8,000 at one school, totaling more than $2 million at all 311 proposed sites.

Scarborough-Agincourt trustee Sam Sotiropoulous said principals are overstepping their realm of responsibilities.

"It's not as if we're decorating their living rooms here. This is an infrastructure project that the (Toronto District School Board) needs very much."

The TDSB first announced the joint project with the private company in 2011. Touted as a win-win deal by school board members, the solar energy company agreed to install the solar panels and perform necessary roof repairs. In exchange, the company would make money by selling the energy back to the Ontario grid.

Although the email from Quan references a single principal, Sotiropolous said it's his understanding that there is likely more than one school head that has an esthetic issue with the solar panel installation. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Fairview Mall
Lawrence Square
North York Sheridan Mall
Sheppard Centre
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Oshawa Centre

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Pickering Town Centre

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Hillcrest Mall

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THORNHILL
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Summer of love campaign

A lovelock installation erected on Tank House Lane in the Distillery District has drawn a lot of attention. On Tuesday, these people were reading the locks and having their photos taken at the installation, which was inspired by other romantic landmarks around the world such Paris, where lovers lock their love on the famous Pont des Arts Bridge. COLIN MCCONNELL/TORONTO STAR

Ontario to treat kids hurt in Gaza conflict

Israel, Hamas strife. Five pediatric hospitals have agreed to offer services to wounded

Ontario's health care system is offering to open its doors to children seriously injured in the four-week conflict in the Middle East between Israelis and Hamas.

"Children who are suffering on either side of the conflict, we want to do what we can to help them," Premier Kathleen Wynne told reporters at Queen's Park.

Health Minister Eric Hoskins, co-founder and former president of War Child Canada, made the announcement Tuesday.

"We believe we have a moral responsibility to respond in this instance," Hoskins told Torstar News Service.

So far, five Ontario pediatric hospitals have agreed to participate in the endeavour.

Hoskins noted the request to Canadians to help both Israeli and Palestinian children came from Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, of Toronto. Abuelaish's internationally acclaimed book, I Shall Not Hate: A Gaza Doctor's Journey, was inspired by the loss of three of his daughters to Israeli shelling in 2009.

Hoskins said it is too early to say how many children could be treated and how quickly because of the paperwork that would be required, noting both the Canadian and Israeli governments have been asked if they would consider being involved in the program.

"Logistically it would be enabling these children, appropriately identified as needing a higher level of care, to be removed from the conflict and bringing them — and probably a parent or parents with them — to Ontario," he said.

Ontario is no stranger to bringing children from elsewhere for specialized care. The Herbie Fund provides financial support for children from around the world to receive surgical treatment at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Airport train

Metrolinx pulls UP Express video

Metrolinx has pulled a promotional video for the new airport train, in part, because it was just too over-eager. The video, which was removed from the Internet Friday, touted the arrival of the $456-million UP Express next year. The $18,000 production featured animations and time-lapsed city skylines, but was scripted with a voiceover so over-the-top excited, it evoked ridicule. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tribute

New Casa Loma collector coin unveiled at castle

A collector coin celebrating Toronto's historical Casa Loma was unveiled Tuesday beneath the famed stained-glass dome that inspired the coin's design.

The silver piece is a tribute to the McCausland dome that covers the conservatory of the landmark castle.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Buddha tattoos

Professor forced to leave Myanmar

A vacationing Canadian professor says he was forced to leave Myanmar after his leg tattoos caused a stir. Jason Polley says the incident was sparked by a local person, who took a picture of his Buddha tattoos and posted the image to Facebook. The photo apparently went viral. Polley says officials photographed his leg at his hotel before putting him on a car ride to the airport.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Airlines keep eye on Ebola outbreak

Precautions. What are carriers doing to ease flyers' concerns?

As the Ebola outbreak in West Africa grows, airlines around the globe are closely monitoring the situation but have yet to make any drastic changes. Here are some key questions about Ebola and what airlines are doing to contain it.

Q: Why are airlines so concerned?
A: Airlines quickly take passengers from one part of the globe to another. With some germs, one sick passenger on a plane could theoretically infect hundreds of people who are connecting to flights to dozens of other countries. Health and airline officials note, however, that Ebola spreads only through direct contact. Outbreaks of diseases that can spread through the air, such as the flu and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), are more problematic for airlines.

Q: Should people travel to West Africa?
A: The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Thursday warned Americans to avoid nonessential travel to the West African nations of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Sierra Leone police officers hold up posters on Monday, Aug. 4, 2014, as they try to educate people about the deadly Ebola virus in the city of Freetown, Sierra Leone. YOUSSOUF BAH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Q: Is Ebola deadly?
A: Very much so. If contracted, there is no vaccine and no specific treatment. The World Health Organization estimated Monday that there have been 887 deaths from the current Ebola outbreak. That translates to a fatality rate of about 60 per cent.

Q: How is Ebola transmitted?
A: The virus spreads only through direct contact with the blood or fluids of an infected person, according to the CDC. It can also be spread through objects, such as needles, that have been contaminated with infected fluids. No airborne transmission has been documented.

Q: Are passengers leaving Africa being screened?
A: Since the outbreak erupted, the CDC has sent approximately two dozen staffers in West Africa to help try to track cases, set up emergency response operations and provide other help to control the outbreak. Last week, CDC officials said the agency will send 50 more in the next month. CDC workers in Africa also are helping to screen passengers at airports, according to CDC director Dr. Tom Frieden.

Q: Has the airline industry dealt with any outbreaks in the past?
A: In 2003, there was a global outbreak of SARS. During the 2003 outbreak, 8,098 people worldwide became sick with SARS; 774 of those died. Airports started screening incoming passengers for fever. The disease was devastating for airlines because fearful passengers stayed home.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Infected. Second of two aid workers arrives at American university

A second American aid worker infected with Ebola arrived Tuesday in Atlanta, where doctors will closely monitor the effect of ZMapp, an experimental drug she agreed to take even though its safety was never tested on humans.

Nancy Writebol arrived from Monrovia, Liberia, in a chartered jet at Dobbins Air Reserve Base and was then taken in an ambulance to Emory University Hospital. She joins Dr. Kent Brantly, also diagnosed with the virus, who arrived at Emory and walked from an ambulance.

The two patients — being treated in an isolation unit — were infected despite taking precautions as they treated Ebola patients in West Africa.

Nancy Writebol arrives at Emory University hospital in Atlanta, Ga. JOHN SPINK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brantly, 33, and Writebol, 59, were working at a missionary clinic outside Liberia's capital.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Experimental drug

Canada's contribution to fighting Ebola virus

Canadian research is at the heart of an experimental Ebola therapy recently given to two American aid workers infected while caring for patients in Liberia.

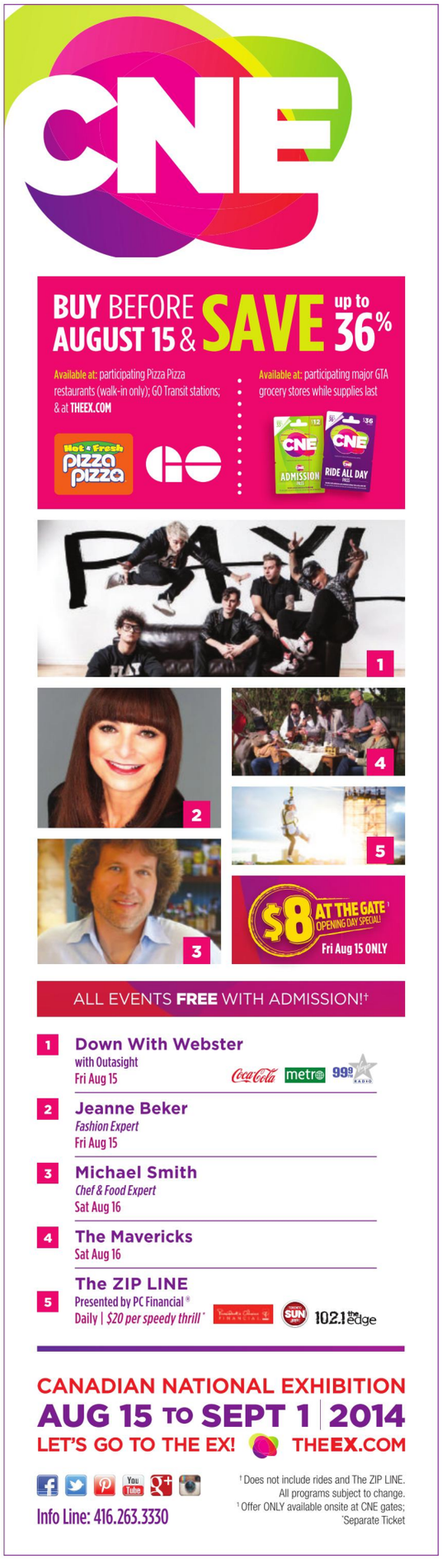
The unlicensed drug, called ZMapp, is made of three monoclonal antibodies, disease-fighting proteins that target a specific part of an invading pathogen, in this case the Ebola Zaire virus — the specific strain of Ebola responsible for this outbreak.

Two of the monoclonal antibodies are the product of years of research done at the Public Health Agency of Canada's National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg, the agency said.

The third was developed at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID).

The former head of the Winnipeg-based laboratory said he was delighted to hear the Canadian-designed antibodies had been used in this way.

"This is really gratifying to see the work come to fruition," said Dr. Frank Plummer, who stepped down as scientific director in March. "It's a big achievement after years and years of very hard work." THE CANADIAN PRESS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'Morally indefensible'

Muslim resigns from U.K. government over policies on Gaza

The U.K.'s first female Muslim cabinet member resigned Tuesday in protest of the British government's policies on Gaza, describing the approach as "morally indefensible" and detrimental to the national interest.

Sayeeda Warsi, a Foreign Office minister of Pakistani descent, announced her departure on her Twitter feed. The move apparently took Downing Street off-guard, and loaded more pressure on Prime Minister David Cameron, who is under fire by the opposition and members of his own party for his staunch support of Israel.

"My view has been that our policy in relation to the Middle East peace process generally, but more recently our approach and language during the current crisis in Gaza, is morally indefensible, is not in Britain's national interest and will have a long-term detrimental impact on our reputation internationally and domestically," Warsi said.

Britain supports a two-state solution. In his response letter to Warsi, released by Downing Street, Cameron said the country has "consistently made clear our grave concerns about the heavy toll of civilian casualties and have called on Israel to exercise restraint, and to find ways to bring this fighting to an end."

Warsi's departure robs Cameron of one of the most visible Conservative Party women in power. She was often seen at Cameron's side and was a poster girl of sorts — an example of the party's efforts to embrace cultural diversity.

Labour Leader Ed Miliband quickly seized upon the news, describing Warsi as having acted with "principle and integrity." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CIBC

An Israeli soldier gives direction to a tank as it is loaded onto a truck in a staging area near the Israel-Gaza border, Tuesday. TSAFRIR ABAYOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israel, Hamas to negotiate new Gaza border deal

Ceasefire. Hamas has signalled flexibility on ceding some authority to Palestinian president in Gaza

The outlines of a solution for battered, blockaded Gaza are emerging after Tuesday's tentative Israel-Hamas ceasefire: Norway is organizing a donor conference and Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas aims to oversee rebuilding and reassert his authority in the territory, lost to Hamas in 2007.

Forces loyal to Abbas would be deployed at Gaza's crossings to encourage Israel and Egypt to lift the closure they imposed after the Hamas takeover.

Indirect Israel-Hamas talks in Cairo are to tackle the details. The hope is that promises of a better life for Gazans will coax compromise and avert what had been looking like a fight to the finish.

The gaps remain wide, especially between Israel and Hamas.

Israel says it has inflicted a painful blow to Hamas' military capabilities in the month-long fighting and wants to make sure the group cannot re-arm if border restrictions are eased.

"The extent to which we are going to be ready to co-operate with the efforts to have better access and movement in Gaza will deeply depend on the kind of arrangements that would secure our peace and security," said Yossi Kuperwasser, a senior official in Israel's Strategic Affairs Ministry.

Hamas, in turn, has signalled flexibility on ceding some authority to Abbas in Gaza, but insists on having a say on reconstruction and that it will not disarm.

Izzat Rishq, a senior Hamas official, said disarming isn't up for discussion.

"We'd take the life of anyone who tries to take the weapons of resistance," he told The Associated Press. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reconstruction plan

The truce is to remain in effect for at least three days, with an expectation that it will be extended to allow Cairo talks on a Gaza solution to proceed. Both the United States and the UN are sending representatives.

- Mohammed Mustafa, a deputy prime minister in the Abbas-led government, said he has already started preparing a Gaza reconstruction plan that would be presented at an international pledging conference in Norway.

Michigan. Boy, 9, dies after repeated stabbing by 12-year-old, police say

A nine-year-old boy died after being repeatedly stabbed by a 12-year-old boy at a playground in western Michigan, police said Tuesday.

Michael Conner Verkerke ran home and collapsed on the porch around 6 p.m. Monday after he was stabbed at a mobile home park in Kentwood, near Grand Rapids, according to police. Investigators said the older boy then left the playground and called police from a nearby home to turn himself in. The nine-year-old died after being rushed to a hospital.

Witnesses told investigators that four children were playing when one of them, for unknown reasons, pulled a knife and stabbed the boy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wyoming

Couple accused of caging child

Authorities in Laramie, Wyo., are laying felony charges against a couple alleging they kept the woman's seven-year-old child in an outdoor cage. The child reported living in the cage on and off for three weeks, sleeping there overnight even during rainstorms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sudan

Floods kill 17, destroy homes

Heavy rain and flooding have killed 17 people and demolished thousands of houses in central Sudan over the past five days. Many areas in the capital, Khartoum, are inaccessible. Transportation has ground to a halt, stranding families whose houses have been swept away.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chinese troops, volunteers help dig out quake victims

Rescuers and a villager walk past rubble from houses destroyed in a massive earthquake in the town of Longtoushan in Ludian County in southwest China's Yunnan Province Tuesday. ANDY WONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

After 48 hours. Authorities calculate southwest China death toll at 410, with 2,373 injured and 12 missing

About 10,000 troops used pickaxes and backhoes to clear roads and dig residents from collapsed homes Tuesday after an earthquake in southwest China that killed 410 people. Groups of volunteers used their bare hands to push rocks over a cliff.

Hundreds of volunteers have converged on the nearby city of Zhaotong en route to the quake-hit areas. The quake struck an area of steep hills and narrow roads not suited to all the traffic of the massive relief effort, and heavy rain Tuesday added to the complications.

Ambulances, bulldozers and trucks clogged the main road heading to the hardest-hit town of Longtou.

Further from the worst-hit areas, landslides created barrier lakes where water levels were rising Tuesday to pose a new threat to about 800 residents and seven power stations downstream, where sudden flooding could prompt power outages, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Earthquake-prone region

- In 1970, a magnitude-7.7 earthquake in Yunnan killed at least 15,000 people.
- In September 2012, a series of quakes killed 81 people.
- In May 2008, a powerful quake in Sichuan province left nearly 90,000 people dead.

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Crown won't retry father for murder in twin girls' deaths

Nelson Hart is pictured in court in Gander, N.L., on March 26, 2007. TARA BRAUTIGAM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Mr. Big.' Nelson Hart, convicted of murder in 2007 for the deaths of his three-year-old girls, was released when confession was ruled inadmissable

A Newfoundland man convicted of drowning his twin daughters after a so-called Mr. Big sting by the RCMP will not face a new trial after the Supreme Court of Canada ruled what he told police officers is inadmissible.

Hart, now 45, was to be released to an undisclosed location after nine years behind bars. The Crown said it couldn't retry him for murder in the deaths of his three-year-old daughters, Karen and Krista, who wound up in the water near a boat launch called Little Harbour on Aug. 4, 2002.

Lawyers for Hart say there is no evidence of a crime without the confession given during an elaborate police sting.

Hart's conviction in 2007 by a jury in the drowning deaths of his three-year-old twin daughters at Gander Lake was initially overturned on appeal in 2012. The Supreme Court of Canada upheld that decision last week, ruling a confession Hart gave to police posing as mobsters cannot be used against him.

Hart has maintained that the deaths of his daughters, Karen and Krista, were accidental but changed his story about what happened.

RCMP launched the Mr. Big sting in February 2005 and spent about $413,000 over four months while officers posing as gangsters recruited Hart to join their crime network. Lawyers for Hart at his appeal stressed that he had a Grade 5 education, was on social assistance and was easily led.

They said that he was especially vulnerable to the Mr. Big tactic used by police across Canada to extract confessions of prior crimes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Crossing t's.' Calgary police continuing triple-murder probe in Mexico

Calgary police investigators are in Mexico as part of an ongoing investigation into the disappearance and presumed murder of a five-year-old boy and his grandparents.

The bodies of Nathan O'Brien and Alvin and Kathy Liknes have not been recovered since the three disappeared from the couple's Calgary home June 29, but police have laid three murder charges.

The couple had been having an estate sale that weekend as they downsized ahead of a move to Edmonton and then to a residence in Mexico.

A Calgary police spokeswoman confirmed Tuesday that officers are in Mexico.

"It's just making sure that all the avenues are covered. There's nothing to it other than just crossing t's and dotting the i's," said Emma Poole.

Douglas Garland, 54, is facing two charges of first-degree murder and one count of second-degree murder.

Garland was initially considered a person of interest in the case and was held on an identity theft charge unrelated to the disappearance of the trio.

Nathan O'Brien and his grandmother Kathy Liknes. CALGARY POLICE SERVICE/HO/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

Garland had lived for several years in Vancouver using the identity of a dead person. Police alleged he was using that identity again when they brought him in for questioning in the missing persons case. That charge has now been stayed by the Crown. Garland is scheduled to return to court next week on the murder charges. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Brandon, Man.

Bird-feeder cat can now eat and drink

A cat that has been roaming around with a bird feeder stuck on its head has gained a bit of freedom. It appears some of the feeder has fallen off and the cat named Butterscotch can now eat and drink. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Abbotsford, B.C.

Boy forced to help steal from his own home

Abbotsford police are asking for the public's help to identify a burglar who forced a 13-year-old boy to help him rummage through the teen's home in a search for more valuables to steal.

The boy was playing on an electronic device when the man broke into the home on May 15, according to Abbotsford police.

When the suspect encountered the boy, he locked him in the bathroom, then forced the boy to help him search for more valuables. The man fled with several electronics. EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

'Horrendous night.' Search for two missing girls ends with joyful family reunion

A frantic search for two young girls who were missing for about 17 hours at a campground near Calabogie, Ont. ended in smiles, as the nine- and 11-year-old girls were rescued in dramatic fashion Tuesday afternoon by the OPP.

The girls spent a night alone in the woods after wandering too far during a game of manhunt, making for a "horrendous" night for family back at the campsite.

Nine-year-old Elya Munro and her 11-year-old cousin Ember Greatrix were rescued after an intense 16-hour search that involved about 30 officers in a helicopter, ATVs, boats and on foot. It was a voice call that eventually found the lost girls about two kilometres in thick bush. Paramedics delivered the girls back to family in an ATV for a reunion that had parents and grandparents in tears.

"We are so relieved," said Elya's grandmother Helene Ripley, fighting back tears just minutes after the girls were returned. She said the girls slept under a tree overnight and Elya's parents began crying when they saw OPP drive up with them on their ATV.

"We are absolutely thrilled, it was a horrendous night."

Elya Munro, 9, and her 11-year-old cousin Ember Greatrix , who went missing after a game of hide-and-seek, ride on an ATV with Renfrew OPP. TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO IN OTTAWA

Paramedics became concerned that the girls were suffering from hypothermia and dehydration, especially since a thunderstorm ripped through the area overnight. But the girls were found with only minor scratches and bumps.

"We had emergency response team officers, and they were in different sections where they were searching, and they were calling out.... The girls responded and they were able then to track and find them," said Renfrew OPP spokeswoman Const. Beth Ethier. TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO IN OTTAWA

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Legal Matters

The risk of fast cash and quick settlements

Robert Durante,
Personal Injury Alliance

Q Why do catastrophic injury cases take so long?

A There's typically a lengthy period of rehabilitation, often lasting at least two years. It is important to wait until it has been completed in order to determine the extent to which the person will recover and to ensure there are enough funds to pay for care for as long as needed. Your lawyer will lay out a litigation plan including timelines, available benefits (for example, motor vehicle insurance money, CPP disability benefits and Ontario Disability Support Payments), and an estimate of the settlement amount.

Q What's the risk for a quick cash settlement?

A The biggest risk is settling for too little money. For people who are seriously injured, the financial outcome of the case will drastically affect the way in which they live their life. And that's why it's important to let the rehabilitation phase run its course.

Q Why is a personal injury lawyer recommended for this type of case?

A Experience is the biggest factor. Lawyers who specialize in personal injury, such as those in the Personal Injury Alliance, have seen it all, from seemingly minor injuries that end up significantly impacting someone's earning potential through to very serious injuries that result in the need for lifelong care. No matter the injury, a lawyer that tries to persuade a seriously injured client into a quick settlement is lacking experience and expertise in this field and is essentially doing the client a serious injustice.
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Time to start reading those terms and conditions

Facebook recently made downloading its Messenger app mandatory in order to send messages on mobile devices, as it removes the inbox from the main app. Concerns over privacy began swirling this past week following media reports detailing what the app is capable of doing on Android devices. This includes: calling phone numbers without your intervention and sending text messages; recording audio with the microphone, and taking photos and videos with the camera, without your confirmation; and reading your phone's call log.

TEXT: TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE
PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Summer jobs won't cover tuition: Poll

CIBC report. While most students are working right now, they say they won't earn enough to pay their costs during the upcoming school year

While most Canadian students are working this summer, most of them won't make enough money to cover their college or university costs.

That's according to a new study by CIBC, which estimates that 65 per cent of college or university students currently have a paying summer job, and that most plan to spend their earnings on school.

But among those who responded to a Leger online poll conducted for the bank, 73 per cent said they will need to work during the upcoming year to support their university or college expenses.

Of the 500 people who took part in the poll, a majority of the students who are working this summer expected to earn between $1,001 and $5,000, and about one-quarter expected to earn between $5,001 and $10,000.

The poll found that 45 per cent of the students were making $11 per hour or less, and 60 per cent were working part-time hours.

Another 20 per cent of those surveyed said they had been looking for summer work but were unable to find anything, as well as 10 per cent not working for the summer and five per cent who are working at a volunteer or unpaid position. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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TSX 15,187.71 (-27.55)

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PRIVACY IS WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT

JUST SAYIN'

Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

I recently read an article in the Washington Post that asked if there was still such a thing as privacy.

A subsequent piece in the Guardian claimed that the slogan for the modern age is: Privacy is dead. Get over it.

Then, I found myself privy to a dispute between a teenage girl who went out partying, when she was supposed to be staying at her friend's house. She pleaded "breach of privacy" after her caper was foiled when her parents checked her Twitter account, which had followers favouriting the Instagram photo that ultimately betrayed her. But the stupidity of that escapade not withstanding, the underlying grievance is one as old as Adam and Eve: Breach of privacy.

Last year, when Edward Snowden revealed that the National Security Agency may have "misused" surveillance technology, everyone was astonished.

There are vulnerabilities that come with relying on technology, not the least of which is that people can enter our home without ever entering our home, but knowing that, perhaps we should maintain a little control over what we can control when we shout from the virtual mountaintops.

What? You mean every time I post personal details about my life on Facebook, like "making out with random stranger at da club," "crossing the border to do some shopping," or "flashing boobs for beads at Mardi Gras" for everyone to see, someone actually sees them?

Here's the thing about privacy: Nobody ever cares about it until it's breached. It's a God-given right that is taken for granted until it's no longer there.

And the more personal information you post online, the more the World Wide Web knows you. If you've ever bought anything or banked online, it knows your credit card, PIN and how many times you've gone into overdraft. It knows your boyfriend's cheating before you ever see the naked double selfie-film posted on Vine. It knows that despite all your vegan moralizations, you succumbed to a cheeseburger while vacationing in Calgary because it was captured by someone filming grandpa's 97th birthday that ended up on YouTube.

The meaning of privacy is going to change, if it hasn't already. It used to mean, "Don't read my diary," or "Stop knocking. I'm in here!", but now it may mean telling pals not to share posts that were designated for friends, unless specified for "friends of friends."

The worst part is, you can't take any of it back.

Anything that's out there is public. The only thing you can do is treat social media like that one mate we all have with the big mouth, and tell that person only what you want everyone to know. Just sayin'.

Ganesh knows how to party

An Indian Muslim man pedals his bicycle past idols of Hindu god Ganesh displayed on a footpath, for sale ahead of Ganesh Chaturthi festival in Bangalore, India, Tuesday. While the festival won't begin until Aug. 29 this year, preparations have been going on for months. The festival celebrates the birthday of the elephant-headed deity.
AL AIJAZ RAHI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hindus prepare for Ganesh Chaturthi festival

Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated by Hindus around the world as the birthday of Lord Ganesh.

It is observed during the Hindu month of Bhadra (mid-August to mid-September) and the grandest and most elaborate of the celebrations, especially in the western India state of Maharashtra, lasts for 10 days.

Lifelike clay models of Lord Ganesh are made two to three months prior to the festival. The size of the idols may vary from three-quarters of an inch to more than 25 feet.

On the first day, they are placed on raised platforms in homes or in elaborately decorated outdoor tents for people to view and pay their homage. A priest, usually clad in a red silk dhoti and shawl, is then said to invoke life into the idol amidst the chanting of mantras. After this, tributes of coconut, red flowers and other items are offered and the idol is anointed with red paste.

HINDUISM.ABOUT.COM

And on the 11th day ...

For 10 days, Ganesh is worshipped.

- On the 11th day, the image is taken through the streets in a procession accompanied with dancing and singing, to be immersed in a river or the sea symbolizing a ritual sendoff for Ganesh's journey back home while taking with him all the misfortunes of all man.

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MetroTube

Beckon them home with the Trombovine

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Derek Klingenberg is as close to a viral farmer as it gets, which — wait — that doesn't sound right. Take two. Derek Klingenberg scored a viral prize a while back with his farmer's take on the only-need-to-hear-it-once hit What Does The Fox Say. Having caught the YouTube fame bug, he's back again — this time treating his cattle herd to a trombovine serenade of Royals, a song we hope has a little more staying power. The muttered mooing at the end is griping about not hearing Team instead. (Farmer Derek Klingenberg/YouTube)

SCREENGRAB

metro
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SCENE 2

Turtles' shell life extended

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Coming together to save the world once again

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

South African director Jonathan Liebesman knew that taking on as storied and popular a pop culture franchise as the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles wasn't without its own unique challenges.

Chief among them? Even diehard fans argue about what exactly counts as gospel when it comes to Leonardo, Michelangelo, Donatello and Raphael.

But then again Liebesman likes a challenge.

How do you decide what's canon and what's not for this franchise?
For me, I was a huge fan of the cartoons and the movies. I didn't know a lot about the comic books until I met Kevin Eastman and read the comics. What was important were touchstones such as pizza and cowabunga, but their personalities were what was most important. There are those tropes, for sure. I think it's like a dysfunctional family that has to come together to save the world.

In the age of Man of Steel and The Dark Knight, you have to make sure audiences know this isn't meant to be taken seriously, right?
That's what I love about the Turtles. I feel like the stuff that I became a fan of was actually the parody of superheroes, the fact that they are so absurd — the combination of teenage, mutant, ninja and turtles is so ridiculous that we do want to laugh. And the more I got into the movie the more I wanted it to be funny because the more I wanted to try and point out how ridiculous it is without undermining the world.

You have a battle on top of a skyscraper and actually show debris hitting the ground, which is oddly rare in a film.
Those shots can be expensive and studios often say, "No one gives a s— about those people down there. Stick with your movie up there." But actually that was [producer Michael] Bay. It's very important for him to see the world being affected by the action. I think that allowed us to push the studio and say, "We want to be in Times Square," and we were allowed to crash things for your pleasure.

That's got to be a kick.
What's awesome is being there and you can walk through an intersection at your leisure. It's pretty amazing, it's surreal. You think you rule it, and then a cop is like, "Get back behind that barricade." And you're like, "But I'm the director!" And they're like, "Get back or you won't be directing anymore." "OK, OK …"

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles return to the screen. CONTRIBUTED

AUGMENTED REALITY

→ Heroes in a half shell? Scan this photo with your Metro News app for a video of the TMNT stars talking about turtle power!

→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Fearless four

Reboot rights itself after it turns Turtles

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

There was a time when the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles were everywhere, but, like all pop culture fads, eventually Turtle mania played itself out.

This weekend, producer Michael Bay is hoping to give the 20th-century pop culture icons a new lease on life. The release of the new Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles is timed to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the first TMNT comic book.

Turtle groupies spoke up when it was announced that Bay wanted to streamline the title to Ninja Turtles but an even bigger controversy struck in 2012.

"These turtles are from an alien race," said Bay, "and they are going to be tough, edgy, funny, and completely lovable." Seems benign enough, but fans were incensed the producer would take liberties with the origin story. Tough and lovable are OK, but alien? Not so much. According to the canon, the heroes on the half shell were transformed when they came into contact with toxic ooze.

One internet firestorm later — Robbie Rist, who voiced Michelangelo in the original movies, went so far as to accuse Bay of "sodomizing" the franchise. Bay amended the statement, reassuring fans he would stick to the official origin story. They even poke fun at the controversy in the movie.

"So," says Vernon (Will Arnett), "they're aliens?"

"No," replies reporter April O'Neil (Megan Fox), "that's stupid."

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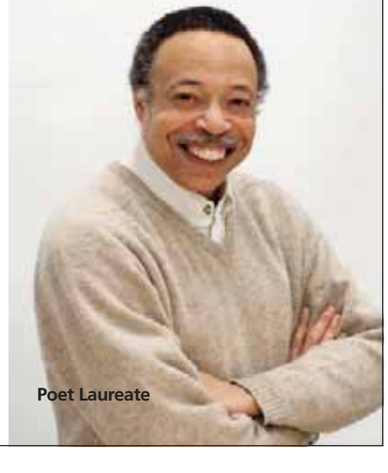
Poet Laureate

Artist hopes to woo audience with this I LOVE YOU thing

Zoja Smutny. The artist talks about her solo performance at Summerworks over dinner on Queen West

Follow along as Andrew takes an intriguing person out for a night on the town, visiting some of Toronto's newest hot spots and offering tips on how you can create your own date night.

DOBBER DATES
Andrew John Virtue Dobson
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Zoja Smutny at Fidel Gastro's Lisa Marie on Queen West. ANDREW DOBSON FOR METRO

I was excited about going on a date with Zoja Smutny, an interdisciplinary artist who launches her solo show, this I LOVE YOU thing, at the Summerworks Performance Festival this month.

We met on Queen West, the heart and hub of the festival, for dinner at Fidel Gastro's Lisa Marie. We sat beside a massive sketch of Elvis and quenched our thirst on summer-fresh cocktails Bubble Sparkx and The Hey Girl. Chef Matthew Basile's cicchetti-inspired menu had us swooning over creamy Creole Prawns with Grits and crispy Ginger Snapper Bao Buns.

Smutny says her Czech and Greek heritage are the biggest influence on her work. "I lived in three countries and spoke three languages by the age of seven. My parents were political activists in Czech during the time of the Russian occupation, so I grew up surrounded by passionate artists."

Her 45-minute solo exploring the language and timing of romantic love songs first premiered in Berlin in 2012 at SODA (Solo Dance Authorship). It was in Germany's most cosmopolitan city where she completed her graduate studies and evolved as an artist.

"It took me two years to create the solo and I was told by my professors to get away from the personal. I was learning how to make art in a German academic setting where no one is given praise," she says. "I created a short film entitled Between Time which my professors critiqued harshly. It went on to be screened at Cannes that year!"

I asked her why she chose to present a piece about love as a solo.

"I don't think it's actually a solo as I'm essentially performing a duet with an intimate audience. The work is focused on spending time together, as a performer with her audience. My goal is to see if I can make you feel like you're the only one in the room with me. I'm trying to be the love song."

I suppose that's how we all want to feel when we are in love.

This will be Smutny's first time working with The Summerworks Performance Festival and she is enthusiastic about the festival's approach. "I'm so excited they are open to a different kind of work that isn't dance or theatre," she says. "Toronto is really opening up its definition of performance!"

Summerworks

Summerworks Performance Festival returns for its 24th year, Aug. 7-17. This year, the Summerworks hub is at The Theatre Centre located at 1115 Queen St. W. More details at summerworks.com

Where to go before, after

Pre: Before the show, pop by Delux on Ossington for the restaurant's iconic, lip-smackingly good Cubano Sandwich.

Post: Afterwards, grab a pint of Leffe at The Beaconsfield, a Zoja Smutny-approved post- performance ritual.

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Sofia the picture of good health now that she's dating a sober Joe

Dating Joe Manganiello is apparently great for your health, as new girlfriend Sofia Vergara is learning. The sober True Blood star has been convincing Vergara to cut out the booze as of late, according to the National Enquirer. "Joe has been a really good influence on her," a source says. "He is teaching her that she can have just as much fun without drinking and has gotten her into fitness and health. They even work out together."

Sofia Vergara

Ariana Grande ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Ariana dumps Aussie beau after his sympathy doesn't extend far enough

These names might not mean anything to you just yet, but pay attention. There will be a quiz later. Singer and Nickelodeon star Ariana Grande has apparently broken up with her Australian boyfriend, Jai Brooks, according to E! News. ("Jai" is Australian for "Jay," just so you know.) So what brought an end to this happy union? Brooks, a member of the prank group the Janoskians did not present the appropriate level of sympathy during Grande's recent personal struggles. "When her grandfather was dying, everyone was there for her," a source says. "People flew to Florida to be with her, but Jai didn't. Ariana just felt he wasn't there like he should have been."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Eva gets Sin City poster flap off her chest

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

Eva Green doesn't get why everyone is so hung up about her boobs, and we kind of love her for it. When a poster for Sin City: A Dame to Kill For — which featured the actress in a sheer top with the silhouette of her chest visible beneath — prompted outcry, the studio swapped it out with a toned-down version, much to Green's chagrin.

"I mean, the poster, you don't see anything!" the hardly shy actress says. "Just wait for the movie, then. It's in 3D, as well. Enjoy yourself, you know! It was nothing on the poster, it was lots of noise for nothing."

In fact, if it were up to Green, and we kind of wish it were, any outcry would be over something else in the image.

"I'm holding a gun on the poster," she points out. "No big deal about the gun, it's all about my tits?"

To be fair, Ms. Green: Yes.

Vince Vaughn touted as True Detective villain for Season 2

Vince Vaughn

The Internet has had a field day with joke predictions about who will be in Season 2 of HBO's True Detective, but eventually someone has to actually sign on. And it looks like one of those people will be Vince Vaughn, returning to his dramatic roots after a long, long run in the comedy world. Vaughn is said to be in talks to play one of four lead roles in the hit series, which won't see the Season 1 characters played by Matthew McConaughey and Woody Harrelson return. But don't expect Vaughn to be on the right side of the law, as he's said to be considering a villainous role written by series creator Nic Pizzolatto specifically for him.

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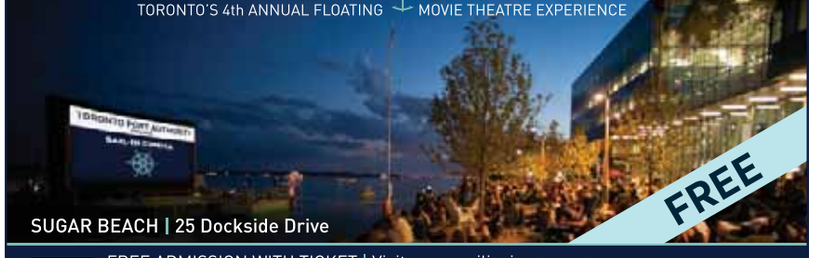

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How-to

Decide what goes in your carry-on

Because checked bags have a habit of disappearing, always pack these items in your carry-on. No excuses:
1. All prescription medications, especially ones you can't live without.
2. All jewelry. Many homeowner insurance policies don't cover jewelry if it's lost on a trip.
3. All electronics, including computers, cameras, recorders and phones. Pack the chargers and cords, too, if there's room and you think they may not be replaceable at the other end of the journey. **DOUG WALLACE/METRO**

Event

Caribbean Food & Wine Festival

Providenciales, Turks and Caicos, is gearing up for this fourth annual festival held at Grace Bay Resorts Nov. 6 to 8. International and local chefs collide with results that make this a sold-out event each year. Special guests include former Top Chef contestant Chef Leah Cohen of New York's Pig & Khao, Chef David Lefevre of Manhattan Beach Post in California and Hans Peter Haider of Hotel12 in Austria, along with vintners from Benziger Family Winery and Cuvaison Estates Wines. Visit caribbeanfoodandwinefestivaltci.com. **DOUG WALLACE/METRO**

Deal

South America on your mind?

If you book a 2015 Globus South American Air-Inclusive vacation on LAN or TAM Airlines before Aug. 26, you get up to $800 off the airfare per couple for travel through March 31. After April 1, you get $600 off. Other discounts are available for people travelling on other airlines, and land-only bookings can get 10 per cent off if you pay up front nine months before departure. Visit GlobusJourneys.ca. **DOUG WALLACE/METRO**

Pawn Stars: The most fun you'll have in a line

Shop

Plans for a plaza

Gold & Silver Pawn Shop co-owner Rick Harrison, star of History Channel reality show Pawn Stars, has drawn up plans for a Pawn Star Plaza shopping centre that could boast six restaurants and about 16 small shops. The plaza, which Harrison estimates would cost $2 million US to build, would consist of several colourful, modular units fit together like a Rubik's Cube. Harrison said he was inspired by Zappos CEO Tony Hsieh's nearby Container Park, which is built out of shipping containers commonly found on trains and barges. "We have always tried to improve our customer experience while waiting in line," Spyer said, pointing to misters, benches and a hot dog stand at the premises. "Now we intend to take it to the next level. We are currently working on a line system that will enable the fans to patronize Pawn Star Plaza without losing their position in line," says pawn shop general manager Theo Spyer.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bucket list

COURTESY/WILDERNESS TOURS

White water rafting

You have to do this at least once in your life. And the nice thing is, you don't have to leave the country for a full-on multi-sport white water rafting adventure. Most Canadian rafting companies are family-oriented, with one- to seven-day outings in a variety of vessels, with the difficulty ranging from easy to expert. If you're heading west, Kootenay River Runners (raftingtherockies.com) in Radium, B.C. has been taking people down the Kicking Horse and the Kootenay Rivers since 1976. On the other side of the country at Foresters Falls, Ont., the Ottawa River is no slouch for thrills and chills. Two outfits of note there: Wilderness Tours (wildernesstours.com) and Owl Rafting (owl-mkc.ca). **DOUG WALLACE/METRO**

Crispy fries worth braving the bugs

Cottage Country. Rolling roads to Haliburton are lined with pristine and picturesque lakes

NATASHA BENE
life@metronews.ca

Our destination today is Haliburton, Ont. Nestled within central Ontario's cottage country, the town is famous for its picturesque cottages, pristine lakes and charm that city-dwellers crave during the summer. With this being our first long ride of the season, we're excited to get on the road.

The road

Speeding along the rolling highways, the crisp country air flows through my helmet's vents while insects pelt my visor — even my knee at one point. If you've ever wondered what a large bug hitting you at 130 km/h feels like, well, it hurts! As we rev our way up north, we encounter a group of motorcyclists heading in the opposite direction. They extend their hands with a friendly wave as they pass. Any motorcyclist will tell you that there is definitely a sense of open-road camaraderie.

Moto Diary

Natasha Bene

I grew up around motorcycles. My first time on the back of my dad's Honda CBR 900 street bike was at the tender age of 10. There's nothing I love more than the scent of bike fuel and the rush of adrenalin as I twist the throttle. Over the next few weeks, I will be sharing my family's motorcycle journeys with you. Together we will explore some of Ontario's less-used highways and hidden gems.

The smell of french fries from Baked & Battered was irresistible as we pulled into Haliburton. NATASHA BENE

Pit stop

We take a break in Norland, a small town just off Hwy. 45, to stretch our legs. There is a loud, thrashing waterfall, tumbling into a river that passes by cottages. Our pit stop is a quick one, since we still have about an hour ride left to reach Haliburton.

Our destination

Arriving in the town, we park our bikes alongside a lake and search for something to eat. The smell of fries coming from a tiny restaurant called Baked & Battered grabs our attention. I run across the road, go in and place an order. The fries (perfectly salted and crisp on the outside) are impressive, as is the speed of the restaurant's debit machines. Heading back to the bikes, I pop one last fry into my mouth before getting back on the road. By the time I get home, my wrists are sore but there is no time to rest — I still need to clean the insect apocalypse off my helmet.

Trip summary

- Total kilometres: 417.
- Trip duration (one-way): 2 hours.
- Highways travelled: Hwy. 12 from Whitby to Brechin, Hwy. 169 from Brechin to Hwy. 45, Hwy. 45 to Norland and then on to Kinmount, Hwy. 503 from Kinmount to Hwy. 3 north, and then east on Hwy. 118 to Haliburton.

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Boutique hotels and art galleries — the more sophisticated side of Las Vegas

So much more than sinning. Nevada's gambling mecca has grown up and is starting to feel more like a city than a tourist trap

DEAN LISK
dean.lisk@metronews.ca

The High Roller in the LINQ is a 550-foot observation wheel offering epic Vegas views. DAVID BECKER

Contrary to that old saying about what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas, it's time the word gets out that Sin City isn't all that sinful anymore. With a downtown revitalization — including plans for a world-class art gallery — and changes along the strip, this desert city is no longer all about gambling, thousand-room hotels and sexy shows (although, no one would blame you for still going to the Thunder from Down Under).

The strip

While stretch SUVs still motor up and down S. Las Vegas Boulevard, around 20 million visitors a year are taking their pedals off the metal and instead hitting the pavement. Recently opened between the historic Flamingo Casino and The Quad, The LINQ is an outdoor shopping, dining and entertainment area featuring the High Roller, a 550-foot observation wheel offering epic views of the city and surrounding mountains.

A draw for visitors, the LINQ is also attracting Vegas residents thanks to popular L.A.-based boutique Kitson (want to dress like your favourite star? Photos hang from the ceiling showing paparazzi shots of young stars wearing their products); Brooklyn Bowl, a combination 32-lane alley and music venue hosting acts like Chvrches and The Avett Brothers; and Polaroid Fotobar, where you download your Twitter, Facebook or Instagram images to print them as Polaroid pictures.

The LINQ is just one of the areas being carved out to make the walk between casinos more enjoyable. The Monte Carlo has also pedestrianized its boulevard frontage to include restaurants and specialty stores like BLVD Creamery, with a rotating selection of ice cream flavours — including alcohol-flavoured — made on site.

The hotels

A boutique hotel in Vegas? While other resorts count their rooms in the thousands, The Cromwell features only 188 rooms. It opened this spring at the corner of Las Vegas Boulevard and Flamingo Road. Dark hardwood floors, leather details and patterned pink and burgundy wall coverings create a Paris-meets-Vegas feel to the rooms.

AUGMENTED REALITY

→ Scan the image above with your Metro News app for more images from Sin City.

metro AR

→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

The hotel has already become a must-visit fixture on the strip thanks to celebrity chef Giada De Laurentiis' first restaurant, which bears her name, Giada. Mixing Italian fare with Californian flair, the lemon spaghetti, bacon-wrapped dates and lemon ricotta cookies have already gained a reputation in the city. Cocktails are named after films made by her grandfather, Dino De Laurentiis. You can sip on a Flash (after Flash Gordon), Blue Velvet or Barbarella.

Giada De Laurentiis
ERIK KABIK

Online

For more information on Las Vegas, visit vegas.com

Whether you visit on a sunny afternoon or after dark, you'll find Drai's Beach Club, located on the roof of The Cromwell, a staple of Vegas day- and night-life.

The 65,000-square-foot indoor and outdoor club, complete with pool, has the best views of the Bellagio fountains and is a frenetic mix of sun-drenched skin and sweat during the day and DJ-fuelled dancing at night.

Other hotels are also betting on the boutique experience. This September, MGM Resorts will open The Delano — a Vegas offshoot of the popular Miami luxury hotel — in a section of its Mandalay Bay property. The hotel space is being transformed into an intimate South Beach-meets-Mojave Desert experience.

The arts district

The point at which the north-south grid system of new Vegas meets the tilted grid of old Vegas will soon be home to The Modern, a 60,000-square-foot contemporary art museum.

The $29-million US project is currently set to open in three years in 18b, an 18-block area that has become known as The Las Vegas Arts District. It is home to Art Square and The Arts Factory — two contemporary art centres featuring a range of artists — and Antiques Alley.

If you find yourself in Vegas at the start of the month, check out First Fridays, a street festival drawing more than 20,000 visitors for a night of food, music and art.

Be sure to also check out Container Park, a new development built out of 43 repurposed shipping containers and featuring a collection of small niche businesses and a treehouse for both parents and children to play in. A large preying mantis — fire erupting from its antennas at night — guards the park's entrance.

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Summer fun

Hire a pro to capture your family holiday. IVONY REGINA/FLYTOGRAPHER

Make the best of your family vacation

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

If you are looking to make some memories with the family before it's back-to-school time, consider these tips on making the most of your summer holiday.

Design a vacation to match your style. Let every member of the family submit their wish list of activities and research appropriate options ahead of time. If everyone has a part in making the schedule, then everyone shares in the anticipation and excitement. If you just don't have time for extensive planning ahead of your departure, I would suggest including some sun and sand into your itinerary. Time at the beach is a reasonably safe bet as a crowd pleaser.

Employ the one-thing-a-day rule and don't over-plan. Pick one or two main activities or attractions to visit and leave plenty of free time in your day. Trying to cram too much into one day means you start paying attention to timing and schedules versus enjoyment.

Don't throw your hands up when it comes to things like sleep schedules or healthy eating habits. Tired kids are grumpy kids and although it might be easier to grab that greasy burger at the roadside, ask around for a local farmers' market and make a picnic. The better you feel, the better time you'll have.

Try to do something with a local point of view. Often the most memorable moments are created away from your fellow tourists. Go shopping in a supermarket, go to a church service or grab something to eat at the local hole-in-the-wall restaurant. Consider taking the bus or subway rather than taxis. Mingling with the locals allows your family to get a sense of place.

Instead of relying on selfies or a blurry shot taken by a well-meaning stranger, hire a professional. Vancouver-based Flytographer.com has access to 180 professional photographers in more than 100 cities around the world. During the shoot the photographer walks around with you to scout out the perfect spot. Digital photos are waiting in your inbox within five days.

Open air stays that will leave you starry-eyed

Astronomer's delight. Sleeping in the open air has never been more luxe; check out these options around the world

Get the full star treatment at this penthouse suite at Las Ventanas al Paraiso in Mexico / AFP

There's no time like a vacation for taking the time to contemplate the night sky, especially with a supermoon and Perseid meteors set to be visible in some places this month.

If the idea of observing the celestial bodies as you drift off to sleep sounds appealing, this selection of hotels is for you.

Tswalu Kalahari South Africa

This private game reserve, located in the South African desert, allows nature lovers to sleep while surrounded by the sounds of the bush, all while contemplating the night sky. Guests can sleep on a luxurious terrace built high above the ground to ensure protection from the occasional wild animal. Prices start at around $500 per night. For more information: tswalu.com

Tswalu Kalahari perches you high above the ground. AFP

Albereta, Italy

The Cabriolet suite in this hotel, a member of the prestigious Relais & Châteaux network, allows guests to sleep under the stars thanks to its retractable roof. At the push of a button by the bed, the roof can be opened and closed as desired. Prices start at around $615. For more information: albereta.it

Amangiri, USA

Located in the desert of southern Utah, this resort boasts no less than six open-roof suites. Each is shielded from the wind by three walls and provides an unmatched view on the vast desert sky. These suites also have a pool, for those who enjoy midnight swims. Prices start at around $1,500. For more information: amanresorts.com/amangiri/home.aspx

Las Ventanas al Paraíso, Mexico

Each of the penthouse suites at this luxury hotel has a wide terrace where a king-size bed has been set up. Guests can begin their evening admiring the night sky from their outdoor bed and end it in the other bed inside, or just stay on the terrace to watch the sunrise. Prices start at around $1,600. For more information: rosewoodhotels.com

Elqui Domos, Chile

A reference among astronomy enthusiasts, this small hotel park invites travellers to stay inside one of several canvas domes. Each of these unusual dwellings contains a bed under a roof that opens partially to offer a view onto the heavens.

Far from the luxury of the above destinations, the domes are simple and sparsely furnished but provide all the basics. Stargazers will also appreciate the dedicated astronomy observatories located on site. Prices start at around $150. For more information: elquidomos.cl AFP

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Everything is just peachy keen when you have a grill

Grilled Peach and Greens with Yogurt Dressing. This refreshingly sweet salad also works with nectarines or apricots

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Summer is about relaxing and having easy dinners that don't take much time.

Perhaps that means putting your favourite protein on the grill or warming up leftovers from the night before.

Looking for pre-marinated meats and fish in your favourite grocery store helps to take the thinking out of the main dish, but it's just as easy to put something together at home.

A quick combination of oil, wine or vinegar, garlic, mustard and your favourite spice or herb will enhance any beef, chicken or fish dish and add some juiciness with flavour.

Once you have that under way, you can put together a flavourful side dish or salad that will stand alongside it.

It doesn't need to take long, but taking advantage of what the summer has to offer is always a great idea.

So change it up and combine some summer sweet fruit with your salad and serve it up alongside that favourite grilled meat or fish.

This is a refreshingly sweet salad that is sure to please. Peaches, once grilled, become sweeter and juicy and match up beautifully with this yogurt dressing.

Ingredients

- 2 ripe peaches
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) canola oil
- 4 cups (1 l) lightly packed baby spinach or mixed greens
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) sliced almonds, toasted
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) chopped fresh mint

Honey Yogurt Dressing

- 2 tbsp (30 ml) vanilla or plain non-fat yogurt
- 2 tsp (10 ml) liquid honey
- 2 tsp (10 ml) canola oil
- Pinch freshly ground black pepper

This recipe serves four. EMILY RICHARDS

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1. Cut each peach in half and remove pit. Brush peach halves with oil and place on greased grill over medium high heat cut side down first. Close lid and grill, turning once for about 5 minutes or until golden and tender. Remove to plate.

2. Honey Yogurt Dressing: In a small bowl, whisk together yogurt, honey and oil.

3. Add spinach, almonds and mint and toss to coat evenly. Divide among 4 plates and top with peach halves to serve.

Dinner. Grilled Rosemary and Garlic Chicken Thighs

Chicken thighs are a cheaper cut of chicken but rich in flavour.

They are very tender and easy to use for any quick weeknight meal.

This recipe is easy to grill and perfect served up along side the salad.

1. In large bowl, stir together the extra-virgin oil, minced garlic, grated lemon rind and juice, dry white wine (or chicken broth) and rosemary.

2. Add chicken thighs and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes.

3. Place the marinated thighs on greased grill over medium-high heat. Close lid and grill for about 12 minutes, turning once or until juices run clear when pierced with knife.

EMILY RICHARDS

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp (15 ml) extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tsp (10 ml) grated lemon rind
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) lemon juice
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) dry white wine or chicken broth
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) chopped fresh rosemary or 2 tsp (10 ml) dried rosemary, crushed
- 8 boneless skinless chicken thighs (about 1 lb/500 g)

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Writing up a summary that sticks

Brighten up your bio. The summary section of your LinkedIn profile is your place to shine

LAUREN MARINIGH
TalentEgg.ca

LinkedIn is an incredibly valuable resource, not just for job-hunting and networking, but also as a platform to develop your professional profile and image.

One of the biggest challenges you'll face when you create your LinkedIn profile is deciding what to include in that dreaded "summary" section, which has a limit of 2,000 characters.

Your summary is usually the first thing a profile viewer sees, which makes it one of the most important parts of your LinkedIn profile — a good summary encourages readers to scroll down and learn more about you.

Here are some tips to help you create a great LinkedIn summary:

Blank is not an option

If you have limited experience, you may feel inclined to neglect writing a summary, convinced that you don't have anything to share.

However, a summary is a great place for you to talk about your future goals and aspirations, which can help you when you're trying to network or land your first job.

Take a minute and look over job applications you've sent out in the past. What do you wish you could add to your resumé or cover letter? Your summary can be a platform for that info. ISTOCK

Even if you aren't actively using LinkedIn or looking for work, having a complete profile shows that you appreciate the importance of online presence and self-representation.

It's important to remember that your LinkedIn profile is always visible, and that leaving your summary blank sends a strong message to a prospective employer.

Use up that character limit

You have about 2,000 characters to share with the LinkedIn world. Put them to good use.

Share things with your network that don't fit in other sections of your profile.

For example, you may possess unique skills or experience that you haven't used in a workplace context — talk about them here.

Your summary is also a great place to show some personal character. While LinkedIn is an online representation of your professional self, your summary can show off some of the traits and attitude that make you unique (and a promising hire).

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Rejuvenate your resumé while the weather's warm

Seeking for September. With employers on the search for top candidates this fall, it may be time to sweep the cobwebs from your CV

MEGHAN GREAVES
TalentEgg.ca

There are many things to think about when heading into a high-volume hiring period, such as what you're going to wear to your next networking event. Though your outfit might be your top priority, there is one other thing you need to ensure is perfect: your resumé.

Do some research

Figure out which employers are hiring, what jobs interest you, what skills you need to focus on, and get an overview of the company culture.

If you can get a sense of how many major jobs you'll be applying for, you can plan your time for writing resumés more strategically, and recognize periods where you'll be applying to similar roles, helping you maintain focus.

Tailor, tailor, and tailor

Every employer offers a number of different roles in their organization. It may be tempting to use a generic resumé, but you won't make the cut.

Every job comes with a unique work environment and culture, and you'll need to do all you can to show that your skills, experience and personal disposition equip you for success in that particular setting.

If you don't write a resumé and cover letter (especially the cover letter) from scratch, an employer will be able to tell.

Perfect your content

Be sure to include all the necessary contact information (i.e., full name, permanent address, school address, professional email, two phone numbers).

Increasing text size or bolding your name always helps to make your info pop for a reader. Depending on the position, including your professional online profile URL could be a good idea too.

Prep hard and soft copies

Each employer has a different way they'd like you to apply to their opportunities.

Some will take hard copy resumés and some may give you their contact info and have you send your resumé via email.

Be on the ball by having copies of your tailored resumé printed and ready to send to them on the spot.

It's also smart to have generic resumés ready to give out and send on the chance that an opportunity becomes available.

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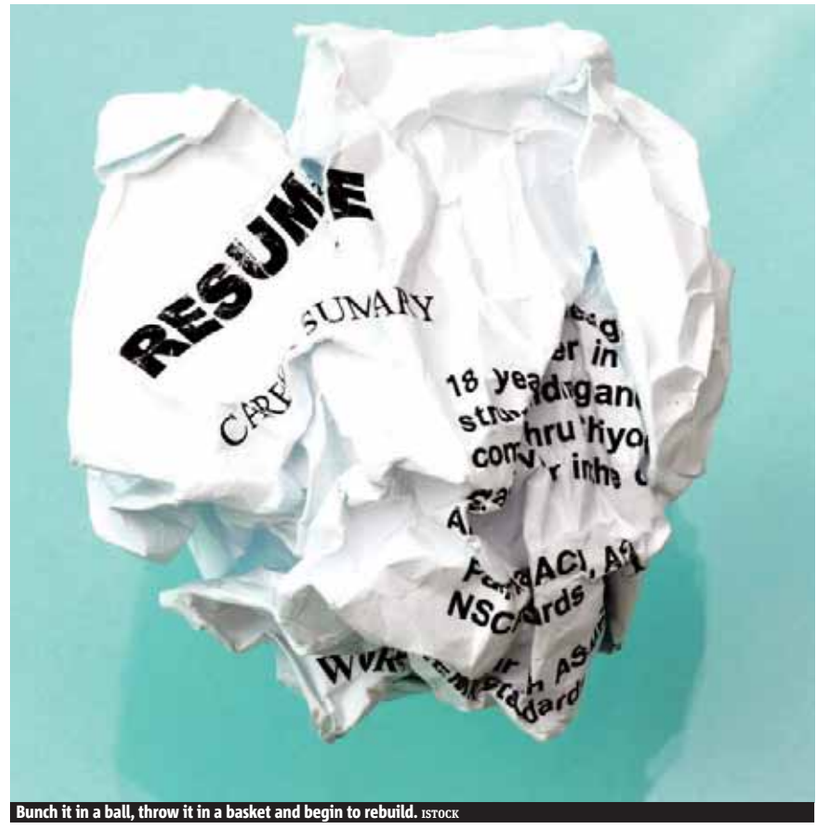
Twitter

TalentEgg #Questionofthe-Day: Which part of your LinkedIn profile is more important — your personal summary or your work experience? Why?

@Erik4Target
Experience is important @TalentEgg, but a great summary of 'where you want to go' can be as valuable to a recruiter as where you've been!

@MarinighPR
To me, my experience! More than likely a new grad's would be their summary though if they lack related experience!

@megharmer
Each section is important to highlight career goals & objectives, while applying your experience to desired field. Both matter!



Bunch it in a ball, throw it in a basket and begin to rebuild. ISTOCK

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Why earning a wage while being educated is worth every penny

Making cents while you study. In addition to the extra cash, there are many upsides to working as a student

RIANA TOPAN
TalentEgg.ca

There's value in having to take your mind off stressful studies a couple of times a week. ISTOCK

As a student, you're perpetually short on time —there are always readings to do, exams to study for, events to attend, friends to see.

If you don't have to work while you're in school, it's understandable that you wouldn't want to.

But if you have the choice, I urge you to consider taking on a part-time job even if it's only for a few hours each week. Here's why:

You'll become really good at using your time well

Being busier overall can actually make you more productive, since procrastinating simply isn't an option.

It will also help you to improve your time-management skills since you'll have to learn how to be smart with your time to succeed at both school and work.

The work experience you gain will be invaluable

Even if it's not related to what you plan to do after school, a part-time job will give you real-world experience that you just can't get from a textbook or a lecture.

Plus, it's a chance to try out jobs you're considering for your career. You could learn more about what you do (or don't!) want to achieve professionally.

Networking and building long-term professional relationships

Some of the most influential people I've ever met have been my employers, and I've built relationships with them that have lasted for years.

They've been good friends and great role models and have given me good references to boot (something I was very thankful for when I started looking for work after finishing my undergrad).

It might even help you to recharge

They say that a change is often as good as a rest — working will give your mind a break from school, which will help you feel refreshed when you hit the books after a shift at work.

You'll get more than just a title

You'll develop useful skills that will help you later on in your career, from learning how to perform well in an interview and understanding the importance of professionalism in a work environment, to improving your customer service skills or learning how to use a photocopier.

Staff privileges

Many jobs come with perks like discounts on merchandise or free food and drinks during your shift, which can help you to save some of the precious money you're earning.

- So if you're thinking about whether or not you want to take on a part-time job, make sure you consider the non-monetary benefits to working while you're still in school.

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How to avoid a face-to-face faux pas

Success in the sit-down. Ace any interview by burying a few common blunders

LAUREN MARINIGH
Metro World News

Don't be afraid to ask for clarification with questions you're unsure of. The overall goal is to provide relevant answers to each question. ISTOCK

In a competitive job market, it can be pretty hard to land an interview.

When you manage to get one, it's important to make the most of the opportunity.

Here are some common mistakes that may be stopping you from interview success, whether that means getting hired or progressing to the next stage of the hiring process.

Abandon these bad habits and your interviews will have a much higher chance of a positive outcome.

Behaving unprofessionally

Regardless of your chosen industry, previous experience or the nature of the position at hand, professional conduct is absolutely vital.

Dress to impress at every interview you attend, even if it's a casual work environment. Overdressing is better than underdressing. Avoid wearing sandals, short skirts, T-shirts, jeans or shorts.

Map out your route in advance, and be sure you have an alternate plan if there are any issues en route. If you're travelling to an unfamiliar area, you may want to test out your route beforehand.

Time how long it will take to get to your interview, and allocate extra time for traffic. Make sure you arrive on time — which means arriving early.

Aim to be at the interview site 15 to 30 minutes ahead of time. Arriving too early can catch an interviewer off-guard, so be prepared to spend some time at a nearby coffee shop or other venue until it's appropriate for you to show up.

Once you arrive to your interview, turn off your phone. If a phone goes off in the interview, you might as well get up and leave.

Oversharing

Some organizations do interviews in a very laid-back fashion, and work hard to make the whole process feel like a casual chat.

- It's important to take your cues from the interviewer, but don't forget the purpose of your meeting. Personal topics aren't relevant, so don't bring them up first.
- Take care to monitor how engaged the interviewer and other participants are. If they're talking at length about great takeout places near the office, be sure to engage and share your enthusiasm — but if you find yourself doing most of the talking, you've probably overstepped.
- Only discuss your past experiences in terms of what they taught you and how they position you for the job at hand. Don't focus on negatives or unproductive periods of your employment history.
- Tip: Be ready for questions about negative workplace experiences or times when you haven't met expectations. Make sure you know how to turn these into positive anecdotes.

Tip: You are under scrutiny from the moment you enter the interview location. Assume a confident, professional bearing in advance of your arrival.

Winging it

You read the job description and decided that you're a perfect fit for the role — but landing the interview doesn't mean anything is for sure.

A lack of preparation will make it harder for you to shine in an interview, particularly if you're unable to answer simple questions about the company's operations.

Remember, an interview is not just about your skills and experience. Capable interviewers will also be looking to assess your personal and professional fit. Make sure to read about the business. Note things like their mission, CEO's name, values, and services.

Have a good understanding of the actual position you are interviewing for. Can you identify the major skills and experience that would make someone an asset for the role?

Don't forget to study your own resumé.

Having a detailed knowledge of the company is just part of the picture — making compelling connections between the role and your own skills is vital for success.

Tip: Research sample interview questions online. Choose several at random. Could you compose a competent answer on the spot?

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Pospisil's bubble popped

Tennis. Canadian upstarts fall on hard times in opening matches of Rogers Cup

Left image: Vasek Pospisil returns a shot during his loss to Richard Gasquet on Tuesday at Rexall Centre at York University. Right image: Roger Federer acknowledges the crowd after his 6-2, 6-0 win over Peter Polansky on Tuesday night. Go to metronews.ca for more Rogers Cup coverage. RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES

Good times in Canadian tennis were rolling, right up until play started at the Rogers Cup on Tuesday.

One by one, three of the five Canadian men in the field bowed out of the tournament, as Vasek Pospisil lost to Richard Gasquet, Frank Dancevic fell to Donald Young and Brayden Schnur was defeated by Andreas Seppi.

Pospisil, who reached the final of the Citi Open on Sunday before losing to fellow Canadian Milos Raonic, was hampered by a right leg injury and fell 7-5, 7-5 to Gasquet in a rematch from last week.

"I think I'm just a little bit tired mentally, maybe," Pospisil said. "Just been on the road a lot of weeks. You need to be 100 per cent at this level if you're playing against Richard. I wasn't feeling a hundred per cent today."

Adding injury to insult on a rough day for Canadian tennis, Pospisil was set to have an MRI on abductor injury, which also forced him to withdraw from doubles play. The Vancouver native was set to team up with American Jack Sock to face Gasquet and Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, who advanced on a walkover.

Pospisil said he had been bothered by the "strange feeling" in his leg off and on for a few weeks but didn't think it would be a long-term problem that would keep him out of next week's event in Cincinnati or the U.S. Open.

The crowd was understandably behind Pospisil as he gutted through the injury.

"He has an extra motivation because it's being home," Gasquet said. "It's the same when I'm playing in France. But yeah, he had big expectations on him, especially here in Toronto."

The loss drops Pospisil from 27th to out of the top 40 in the ATP rankings. THE CANADIAN PRESS

AUGMENTED REALITY

- Scan the image with your Metro News app to view a gallery of Tuesday's action at the Rogers Cup in Toronto and Montreal.
- See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

metro AR

In Montreal

Power outage for Eugenie

Eugenie Bouchard can only scratch her head during her shocking loss to Shelby Rogers on Tuesday in Montreal. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Shelby Rogers scored a shocking 6-0, 2-6, 6-0 victory over the listless crowd favourite Eugenie Bouchard at the women's Rogers Cup on a Tuesday thrown into confusion by a more than seven-hour power outage.

Play went on despite the lack of electricity, which shut down scoreboards and umpires' microphones.

Bouchard, from Westmount, Que., suffered her own power shortage after walking to centre court to a standing ovation.

The 20-year-old, perhaps rusty from not having played since reaching the Wimbledon final last month, couldn't make a shot in the first set, hitting normally routine shots long or wide. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soccer. Blatter dreams big on behalf of Canadians

Sepp Blatter appeared at peace.

Perhaps it was lingering memories of a chaotic Brazilian World Cup that have FIFA's president so happy to be in Canada. Maybe it was a modestly attended news conference where he faced no questions about FIFA's many controversies.

Canada seems to suit Blatter just fine. Blatter didn't even have to be asked about a possible men's World Cup in Canada — he brought it up on his own.

"Let's go to see if you can bring the famous FIFA's World Cup we just played in Brazil to your country," he said Monday in Toronto. "I'm sure that this country will be as calm as it is now, and tell me one country in the world actually that is very calm. And here, I feel home."

That's good news for Canadian soccer as it hosts the Under-20 Women's World Cup, which began Tuesday.

Blatter called the tournaments a necessary step to a successful bid by the Canadian Soccer Association for the men's senior tournament.

The CSA has said it plans to enter a formal bid for the 2026 World Cup. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Charges laid in PED 'conspiracy'

A cousin of Alex Rodriguez who the star said injected him with steroids and a one-time clinic owner accused of providing performance-enhancing drugs to players were arrested in connection with a drug conspiracy, authorities said Tuesday.

Yuri Sucart and former Biogenesis of America clinic owner Anthony Bosch, who was charged Tuesday with conspiracy to distribute steroids, were among nine people charged. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA. Spurs make history with hiring of Hammon

The San Antonio Spurs hired WNBA star Becky Hammon on Tuesday, making her the first full-time, paid female assistant on an NBA coaching staff.

Hammon, who now plans to retire from the San Antonio Stars, worked with coach Gregg Popovich and the Spurs last season and made a strong impression on the organization known for its forward thinking.

Last season, Hammon attended Spurs practices, film sessions and sat behind the bench for the NBA champions at home game this season.

Becky Hammon THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"Having observed her working with our team this past season, I'm confident her basketball IQ, work ethic and interpersonal skills will be a great benefit to the Spurs," Popovich said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Cherry's home costs $8M? 'Ridiculous!'

Mississauga Road.
Hockey analyst blasts auctioneer for using his name to sell a mansion he never lived in

Don Cherry GETTY IMAGES

Ritchies auction house and BuzzPR have apologized to Don Cherry for advertising a splashy mansion on Mississauga Road as the hockey legend's former residence.

The home — which is being marketed as an $8-million property — boasts 12 bathrooms, nine fireplaces, a tennis court, a swimming pool, a piano room, a billiard room, a library and a sauna.

On Tuesday morning BuzzPR issued a news release on behalf of Ritchies with the headline: "Don Cherry's Former Residence up for 8 Million Dollar Auction."

Problem is the crusty hockey analyst never lived there.

Cherry and his lawyer reacted sharply after some news outlets quickly ran with the story without verifying it.

The star of Hockey Night in Canada's Coach's Corner blasted the auctioneers as "liars."

"It's pretty low for an auction house to use my name to sell a house," Cherry tweeted Tuesday afternoon. "I have never lived in the house."

In another Tweet, Cherry said: "It's ridiculous for anyone to think that I would live in a 10,500-square-foot home."

Later in the day Ritchies and BuzzPR admitted that the news release connecting the home to Cherry was false. They blamed the misinformation on the "trusted owner of the home."

The original news release quoted Sam McDadi, the real estate broker selling the mansion, as saying that "many important Canadians" besides Cherry lived there.

McDadi told Torstar News Service he didn't say the words attributed to him. "I never said that," McDadi said. "That was BS." **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Lawrie returns! ... to the dugout

Brett Lawrie, seen here avoiding the tag from Baltimore's Chris Davis, returned to the Blue Jays' lineup on Tuesday night but left again just as soon. Playing for the first time since June 22 when he fractured his right index finger, Lawrie was removed from the game after three innings as a precaution with what the club described as lower back tightness. Go to metronews.ca for results from Tuesday night's big series opener against the Orioles. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MLB

Yankees' pitcher eyeing return

Yankee pitcher Masahiro Tanaka made 50 throws from 60 feet before Tuesday night's game against Detroit, Yankees manager Joe Girardi says. That's twice as many tosses as Tanaka took Monday in his first action since early July because of a tear in his right elbow. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

FIFA World Cup

Barça star retires from Spanish team

Barcelona midfielder Xavi Hernandez says he will not play again for the Spanish national team after a disappointing World Cup.

The 34-year-old Xavi says, "I have taken the decision to leave the selection. I think my time has ended." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

MLS

"It's going to be a hell of a challenge for us to contain that team and try to win the game."

New York Redbulls forward Thierry Henry on Major League Soccer's all-stars playing German powerhouse Bayern Munich Wednesday in Portland

2014 Toyota RAV4

- **Type:** Four-door, front-wheel or all-wheel-drive compact SUV
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Market position

Almost everyone has a vehicle in the compact SUV market, and fierce competition means most are top-notch. The RAV4 scores with a lower starting price than most, while still offering numerous features and creature comforts.

Points

- The RAV4 offers considerable storage space, including hidden cubbies under the cargo floor, fold-flat seats, and a large tray in the dash.
- The seats are comfortable for short commutes, but can get hard on longer drives, so be aware if you're planning to take long trips in it.
- Eco or Sport modes let you adjust for efficiency or performance.

With the spare tire moved inside, RAV4 gets a top-hinged liftgate.

Safety features

Eight airbags, including driver's knee; wiper de-icer; available lane-departure warning; available blind-spot monitor with cross-traffic alert.

Redesigned RAV4 revs it up

Review. Toyota's new compact SUV is a big improvement over the previous model

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

PHOTOS: JIL MCINTOSH

Canadians love compact SUVs, so automakers are continually improving their entries in this highly competitive segment.

Toyota redesigned its RAV4 for 2013. The 2014 version undergoes minor trim changes, including a standard navigation system on the top-line Limited.

My tester was the base LE with front-wheel drive, which starts at $23,870, along with a $1,500 Upgrade Package that added such features as heated seats, backup camera, cargo cover, silver roof rails, and audio display screen.

An all-wheel-drive system is optional on the LE and mid-range XLE trim line, and is the only choice on the top-line Limited. The AWD primarily runs the front wheels in normal driving, but will send power to the rear wheels when needed in slippery conditions.

Although the previous-generation RAV4 could be ordered with a V6, all models now use a 2.5-litre four-cylinder that makes 176 horsepower, and is mated to a six-speed automatic transmission. You won't miss the V6; the four-cylinder does an excellent job, even when I had the vehicle fully loaded with passengers and luggage en route to the airport.

The steering is a little too light for my liking, but that also translates into an easy trip around tight spots and into parking spaces. The ride is firm without being harsh but, overall, the RAV4 is very noisy, both from the tires and the engine, which can drone at certain speeds.

The spare tire used to be stored on the swing-out rear gate, but now that it's been moved inside under the cargo floor, the RAV4 gets a top-hinged liftgate, which I find more convenient.

The interior looks fabulous, including a stitched dash and steering wheel, easy-to-use controls, and small-item storage.

The rear seats can be a little tight for tall passengers, but those back chairs easily fold flat for cargo space.

All in all, this is a considerable improvement over the old RAV4, and a worthy contender in the segment.

Compare

1 Ford Escape
Base price: $24,499
Available in FWD or AWD, the Escape offers a well-designed interior and three engines.

2 Volkswagen Tiguan
Base price:$24,990
Great handling and a 200-hp engine make it fun, while available AWD improves foul-weather stability.

3 Subaru Forester
Base price: $25,995
A genuinely nice vehicle to drive, the Forester includes a full-time all-wheel-drive system on every model.

Google's autonomous car is just the beginning, as mainstream automakers develop their own versions. CONTRIBUTED

We must plan now for the imminent demise of driving

Autopilot. Automotive researchers predict we will have self-driving cars on our roads by 2020, so why aren't we preparing for that?

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Regrets, I've had a few. By a few, I mean a few hundred.

The ones I'm prepared to speak about publicly mostly revolve around sports cars I should have bought, when they were just "used cars" and 25 years away from becoming the $1-million-plus classics they are today.

I guess we're always not doing things today that would make our futures better. Sometimes it comes down to the future being so cloudy, or taking such crazy turns, that you really have no chance of making the right decisions.

Other times, we can see the future clearly enough, but don't act accordingly. This latter type of misfire is what Paul Godsmark figures is happening right now in our society, as we head into a future where vehicles are self-driven and are able talk to each other and stay out of each other's way.

Godsmark trained in England as a civil engineer; he currently lives in Edmonton, and works as a transportation specialist. He is a member of the Autonomous Vehicle Task Force at ITS Canada, and co-founded the Canadian Automated Vehicles Centre of Excellence (CAVCOE), a non-profit organization devoted to researching and advocating for automated vehicles. If there are others in Canada with more insight into the economic and social implications of a driverless future than Godsmark, we're not aware of them. He believes that future is coming faster than people think.

"The technology is not just accelerating, the acceleration is accelerating," he says. He predicts there will be some driverless transportation in Canada by 2020, or sooner.

That's only six years away, so any decisions governments and businesses are making today about long-term projects had better be based on this new self-driving paradigm. Of course, they're not. That's what has Godsmark so frustrated.

"This will be a huge disruption. There are so many things we could be doing."

He says one of the main things we should be doing is due diligence on all transit plans, especially super-expensive ones, like LRTs and subways. We may not need them.

Godsmark also wonders about businesses that continue to invest long-term in the current paradigm, where large numbers of people need to buy and maintain their own vehicles. If cars can be programmed to show up when you need them, and drive off to someone else when you don't, we won't need nearly as many vehicles.

CAVCOE is proposing some kind of new federal group to lead regulatory matters for driverless vehicles, because such a future will impact all levels of Canadian society — not just the transportation space.

Godsmark notes that health costs, tax revenues, jobs, municipal land, and natural resources are just a few of the areas that will drastically change under the driverless paradigm.

"We want to get the message out that we're all stakeholders, every single one of us," he says. "We all need to be aware of the potential changes."

Autonomous autos

"The technology is not just accelerating, the acceleration is accelerating."

Paul Godsmark, Canadian Automated Vehicles Centre of Excellence

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Recording the ongoing Volvolution

Screen time. The Swedish auto maker has been quietly promoting its vehicles on TV and movie screens for decades

MIKE DOJC
drive@metronews.ca

Swedish auto darling Volvo, now owned by China's Geely Holding Group, is beginning to flex its eco-muscles. The upcoming T8 model of the XC90 SUV reportedly emits less carbon than a Prius.

The venerable brand with a reputation for boxy designs and a fixation on safety is attempting to broaden its appeal beyond the baby-on-board crowd.

No doubt, Volvo is already seeking a plum film or TV role for its new green-sensitive seven-seater — in keeping with the company's long tradition of using screen time to build brand recognition.

James Bond may have preferred marques steeped in Queen and Country, such as Aston Martin and Lotus, but 007 actor Roger Moore honed his suave devil-may-care moves and spycraft on the 1960s TV series The Saint, behind the wheel of a peppy, pearl-white Volvo P1800.

The nimble coupe gave legions of bad guys the slip during the show's six-season run and Moore was so enamoured with his beautiful co-star that he bought one of his own.

The show's producers initially asked Jaguar to provide an E-Type for the series, but when the company passed, Volvo pounced on the opportunity. Jaguar learned from its mistake, offering up an XJ-S for the short-lived Return of the Saint a decade later.

In recent years, Volvos have appeared all over, showcasing a dark side, a frat side, and a tween-fantasy side.

Breaking Bad's Gustavo Fring, the low-key owner of the Los Pollos Hermanos fast-food chain and a drug kingpin, drove around Albuquerque in a midnight-blue 1998 Volvo V70 station wagon.

"The guy drives a 10-year-old Volvo. It's brilliant," opines DEA agent Hank Schrader, as he begins to suspect that Fring is selling something even more addictive than fried chicken.

Then there's Anders from Workaholics, who salutes his Nordic ancestors by porting his chucklehead brahs around in "The 'Vo."

His red 1985 740 GLE is decidedly old-school, with its 14-inch mag wheels and in-dash cassette player, but it does the job — whether that's getting the boys to their telemarketing job or a crack-of-dawn breakfast burrito run.

Ubiquitous

In recent years, Volvos have appeared all over TV and movie screens, showcasing their dark side, a frat side, and even a tween fantasy side.

Breaking Bad drug kingpin Gustavo Fring kept a low profile by driving a 10-year-old Volvo V70. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Twilight time

Volvo's most epic product placement may have been its big-screen vamping through the five-flick Twilight saga. Bella chose Edward over Jacob not only for his dander-free lifestyle, but also for the badass way he handled his silver Volvo c30. Of course, he upgrades to the roomier XC60 as their relationship matures. Perhaps that's why the XC60 has been Volvo's top-selling model since 2009, passing the 500,000 units-sold mark in April. Apparently, there's no better endorsement for longevity than getting a thumbs-up from an immortal.

Did Bella choose Edward for his hair or his sweet Volvo C30?

The red 1985 Volvo 740 GLE that Anders drives on The Workaholics is affectionately known as The 'Vo.

Before his James Bond days, British actor Roger Moore played The Saint on the 1960s TV series, driving around in a pearl-white Volvo P1800.

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Employee Pricing is not combinable with CPA, GPC, CFIP, Daily Rental Allowance and AX/Z/D/F-Plan programs. ◊Until September 30, 2014, own a new 2014 (Focus S Manual 4-door sedan / Focus ST / Escape S 4-door FWD/ Escape Titanium 4x4 / F-150 STX/F-150 SuperCrew 4x4 5.5' box 145" WB) for only ($14,344/$28,434/$24,494/$33,472/$24,327/$49,806). Prices shown include Total Ford Employee Price adjustment deduction of ($3,230/$3,230/$1,755/$3,977/ $9,172/$14,393). Total Ford Employee Price adjustment is a combination of Employee Price adjustment ($620/$2,480/$1,255/$2,773/ $2,422/$7,643) and delivery allowance of ($2,700/$750/$500/$1,000/$6,750/$6,750). Offers include freight and air tax but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. 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Taxes payable before incentive is deducted. ¥F-Series is the best-selling pickup truck in Canada for 48 years in a row based on Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association statistical sales reports, up to December 2013. ¥Based on 2007 – 2013 and YTD April 2014 R. L. Polk vehicle registrations data for Canada in the Large Premium Utility, Large Traditional Utility, Large Utility, Medium Premium Utility, Medium Utility, Small Premium Utility, and Small Utility segments. ±±Claim based on analysis by Ford of Polk global new registration for CY2012 for a single nameplate which excludes rebadged vehicles, platform derivatives or other vehicle nameplate versions. ©2014 Sirius Canada Inc. "SiriusXM", the SiriusXM logo, channel names and logos are trademarks of SiriusXM Radio Inc. and are used under licence. ©2014 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved.

Shift: From hybrids, technology, new vehicles and the environment, to saving money at the pumps

EcoBoost engine standard in a Ford line for the first time

Ford will make the 2015 Edge car-based tall wagon the first model to come with a turbocharged EcoBoost engine as standard equipment. EcoBoost is Ford's rendering of the modern cleaner-burning, lower-emitting, higher-performing gasoline engine, using precisely metered, electronically controlled direct fuel injection, as well as turbochargers, which are small exhaust-driven turbines that push more air into the engine. More air equals more combustion power, but only when demanded by the driver. The re-engineered Edge will have three engine options, two of which are new: a standard 2.0-litre four-cylinder EcoBoost and a 2.7-litre EcoBoost V6. A non-turbo 3.5-litre V6 completes the engine options. **ALL STORIES AND PHOTOS FROM WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM**

The new 2015 Ford Edge will provide two Ecoboost engine choices.

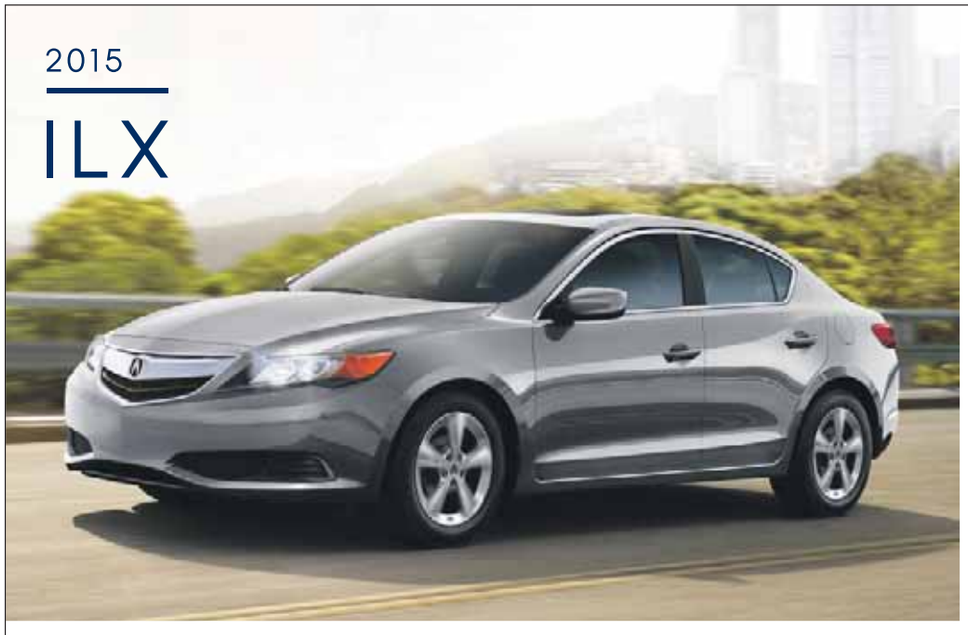
China pushes electric cars to cut smog

Choking on its own airborne pollution, China has waived a 10-per-cent purchase tax on electric cars as part of expanded measures to combat emissions and cut energy dependence. New-energy autos, which is China's term for battery-electric vehicles, plug-in hybrids and hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles, will be excluded from the levy beginning Sept. 1 to the end of 2017, according to a statement posted to the central government's website. EV sales have lagged behind government-set targets, reports Bloomberg news service, "as state subsidies failed to overcome consumer concerns about price, convenience and reliability." The tax break applies to both domestic electric cars and qualified imports, paving the way for foreign carmakers to benefit.

China has introduced tax exemptions for electric vehicles in an effort to promote sales and battle air pollution. REUTERS

Shift points

- Nikkei Asian Review says the government will put its full weight behind promoting hydrogen fuel cells, using such measures as deregulation policies to allow high-pressure hydrogen refuelling.
- Hertz says adding hybrid and electric vehicles helped its fleet achieve an average of 25.4 miles per U.S. gallon (9.3 L/100 km) in March. That's not bad, considering many people drive rental cars like they stole them.
- Ford has developed an aluminum-intensive Lightweight Concept Car, based on its mid-size Fusion sedan, that is 25-per-cent lighter than the production car, or about the same weight as its subcompact Fiesta.



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See dealer for limited warranty details. ‡‡Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada for vehicles delivered between August 1, 2014 and September 30, 2014. 0% purchase financing offered on approved credit by TD Auto Finance Services, Scotiabank® or RBC Royal Bank for 84 months on all new or demonstrator 2014 Chevrolet vehicles, excluding Corvette. Participating lenders are subject to change. Rates from other lenders will vary. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: $20,000 at 0% APR, the monthly payment is $238.10 for 84 months. Cost of borrowing is $0, total obligation is $20,000. Offer is unconditionally interest-free. Freight and air tax ($100, if applicable) included. Licence, insurance, registration, PPSA, applicable taxes and dealer fees not included. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time offer which may not be combined with certain other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers, in whole or in part, at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ®Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. ∞Offer applies to eligible current owners or lessees of any model year 1999 or newer car that has been registered and insured in Canada in the customer's name for the previous consecutive six (6) months. Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2013, 2014 model year Chevrolet/Buick/GMC car, SUV or crossover and 2015 MY Chevrolet HD, Suburban, Tahoe, Traverse and GMC HD, Yukon, Yukon XL, Acadia and 2015 Buick Enclave and 2013 and 2014 MY Cadillac models delivered in Canada between August 1, 2014 and August 31, 2014. Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive) and credit value depends on model purchased: $750 credit available on all eligible Chevrolet, Buick and GMC vehicles; $1,000 credit available on all Cadillac vehicles. Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. 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Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice.

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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Try not to give the impression that you don't know what is going on because that will encourage rivals to keep you in the dark. Pretend you are on top of everything.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Over the next few days you will have to strike a balance between the needs of loved ones, employers and other important people. Be smart.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
There will be times today when it seems that for every step forward you take you end up taking two steps backwards. It may be frustrating but go with the flow and don't get uptight.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
If you carry on spending money at the present rate you will soon be out of cash. It's time to be honest with yourself about how wasteful you have been lately.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You will have to deal with someone who gets emotional for no good reason. They may be in tears but you must stay focus on what needs to be done.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You seem to be interested in strange ideas and people are starting to worry. They need not be concerned, you're just going through a rebellious phases when you refuse to be logical.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You expect great things of yourself, but sometimes you go too far and set targets that are impossible to reach. What happens over the next few days will bring you back to earth.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The approaching full moon will make everyone a bit touchy over the next few days, so make allowances for them and make allowances for yourself as well.

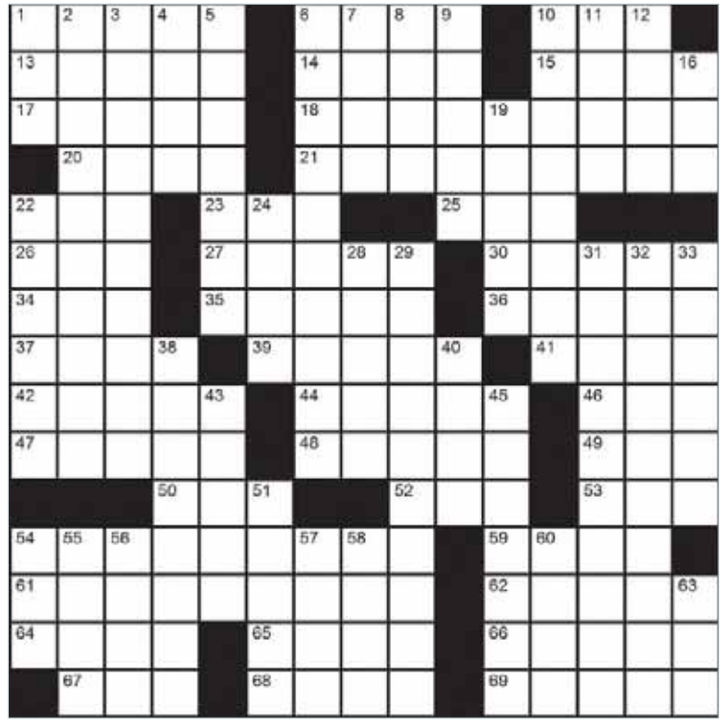
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
What happens around the time of the full moon will turn everything upside-down, so there is no point taking anything too seriously. Go where there is laughter and fun.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You seem to believe that the best way to solve a problem is to throw money at it. All you will succeed in doing is wasting even more of your precious resources. Think again.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The approaching full moon, which takes place in your birth sign this weekend, will upset your emotional equilibrium. But it'll also make you sensitive to the needs of partners.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Others may say that you have got something all wrong but you must not allow them to change your opinion.

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. Happy as _ __!
6. Learning basics
10. __-Fi
13. Link with: 2 wds.
14. Run fast
15. TTFN's 'TT'
17. Mil. rank, __. __.
18. Central and Mountain ...in Canada: 2 wds.
20. Racetrack fence
21. Canadian series "Riverdale", for one: 2 wds.
22. Distinguished [abbr.]
23. Checkout scanner's target [acronym]
25. Jr.s' dads
26. "Diva __ _ Dime"
27. Bundle
30. Portia de __
34. Marry
35. Ms. Lauper
36. "Children __ __" (2006) starring Clive Owen
37. Svelte
39. __ Miller Band (More at #54-Across)
41. Rooters
42. Mr. Baldwin's
44. Careens
46. Composer, Francis __
47. Rick __ (Canadian member of The Band)
48. Salts sort
49. Mil. officers
50. __ _ few days
52. A-U link
53. Fido's doc
54. #39-Across tune that goes "Come on and dance..."
59. Mr. Redding
61. All day/all night store sign: wd. + number + abbr.
62. Stories
64. "Hello, __ _._.
65. Hanker
66. Luau dances
67. Farm pen
68. Words: French
69. Leaves in, in proofreading

Down
1. Nfld.'s water
2. Bug Off! __ candles
3. Founded in Quebec City in 1806, it was a French politically-motivated newspaper: 2 mots
4. "Bonne Fete _ __..."
5. Snail, for one, variantly
6. "Canada is our stage.": National __ __
7. Actor Scott
8. Dean Brody trophy, e.g.
9. Oozes
10. Visits quickly: 2 wds.
11. Tapdancer's prop
12. Roman road
16. Botanist Mr. Gray
19. Antonio Banderas' masked character
22. "Such a shame.": 2 wds.
24. __. Ed. (Gym class)
28. Take _ __ breath...
29. Smell, sight, touch, sound and taste: 2 wds.
31. Young Clark Kent series on Canadian actress Kristin Kreuk's resume
32. Red Chamber chair?: 2 wds.
33. Assert
38. The Kids in the Hall member Mark
40. Morlocks munchies
43. Blur hit: wd. + number
45. Polishes
51. 8am-starting workers ...when do they go home?: wd. + number + two letters
54. "__ _ heard..."
55. Typing stats
56. Superlative suffix
57. Cincinnati's state
58. 'Weren't', abbreviated
60. Pulled tightly
63. "Hiss!"

Yesterday's Crossword

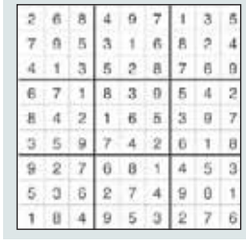
Online
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

			5		2			
		4				6		
2	6		4		7		3	1
	8						2	
7		9				1		8
	1						5	
5	7		6		9		4	3
		3				9		
			2		1			

Yesterday's Sudoku



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ON SELECT MODELS

Rio4 SX with Navigation shown△
Cash purchase price $22,714
hwy / city 100km*: 5.3L/7.3L

Forte SX shown△
Cash purchase price $26,814
hwy / city 100km*: 5.3L/8.0L

2015 RIO LX MT

OWN IT!		FOR	
$39	$0	0%	84≠
WEEKLY	DOWN PAYMENT	FINANCING	MONTHS

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and a $1,250 loan rebate†. Offer based on 2015 Rio LX MT (RO541F) with a purchase price of **$14,364**. Excludes HST.

2015 FORTE LX MT

OWN IT!		FOR	
$45	$0	0%	84≠
WEEKLY	DOWN PAYMENT	FINANCING	MONTHS

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Sportage SX AT Luxury AWD shown^

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Rondo EX Luxury 7-seat shown^

2014 RONDO

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Forte Koup SX Luxury shown^

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